

JUN 15 1976

17 Fifth Avenue  
Waterford, CT 06385  
June 9, 1976

*Chris Jones  
Research  
not sufficient*

Dr. Joshua Lederberg, Chairman  
Department of Genetics  
Stanford University School of Medicine  
Stanford, California

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

Now that the spring semester has ended I am making plans to spend this summer as a volunteer in the Emergency Room of Lawrence and Memorial Hospitals, New London, Connecticut. In addition, I will be facing the lengthy task of preparing my applications to medical schools.

Meanwhile, I have done some "homework" on the record of admission for graduates of the University of Connecticut (UConn) to Cornell, Northwestern, Columbia P & S, Harvard, Stanford and Yale medical schools. These schools do not have a single UConn graduate among their combined 3,000 students.

I am particularly interested in Columbia P & S, Stanford, and Harvard. However, their admissions records to date show ZERO chance of a UConn graduate being admitted. It appears to me that although I am a University Scholar in Honors Chemistry with a CQPR of 3.9, Phi Beta Kappa as a Junior, and other achievements, no degree of excellence or involvement in worthwhile activities at UConn alone is enough to give me entree to these schools. I did not realize until now the extent to which graduates of the Ivy League schools predominate in these medical schools. Evidently, there may be a question as to whether even the best students from the state universities are on a par with the Ivy League graduates in their capabilities. Therefore, although it is difficult for me to be so blunt, I recognize that a strong letter of recommendation from you is of crucial importance to me and that it will probably be the deciding factor in my case.

I hope that my work for you was of high enough quality to enable you to write such a letter of recommendation for me. If it was, I would be most grateful if you would fill out both sides of the enclosed recommendation form and send it to my premedical advisor in the enclosed envelope addressed to him.

In the meantime, would you please immediately return the enclosed slip to me so that I can know if I may count on this critical reference from you. I have also included a stamped, self-addressed envelope for this.

I thank you for your time and look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark Weidenbaum". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Mark Weidenbaum